

SHIRIN, I HAVE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT YOUR
DRAFT AND DENNIS' AND RE-WROTE
IT. COULD YOU PLEASE FAX THIS TO EVE?
THANKS, DENNIS

QUEER SPACE

All space is queer. But a formidable range of institutional practices attempts to straighten it out, perverting it to reinforce cultural stereotypes. Nevertheless, by using it, cruising, it, hiding in it, coming out into it and re-labeling it, space can be transformed and reappropriated.

While there have been some isolated debates concerning gay, lesbian, and other dissidents in the arts, similar questions of sexuality in architectural and urban space have gone largely unaddressed. Yet space cannot be separated from these questions. At the very least, space is a central mechanism in the construction of sexual identity. Furthermore, the development of urban and domestic space over the last two centuries has closely but covertly evolved following a variety of sexual practices, identities and cultures. There is a secret life to space as there is to identity. All the fundamental spatial issues like private/public, community/fragmentation, inside/outside, violence/safety, cultural/sexual, and so on, must be raised again in a new way.

"Queer space" will investigate this repressed sense of space in relation to the city and architecture by combining the forms of exhibition, symposium and publication. The event will be manifested in various non-traditional venues like store windows and broadcast media. Bringing together architects, artists, and cultural critics, it will explore the entanglement of space and sexuality in both social and urban space.

DENNIS COSMIDIS